PE pocket No. RWBP101US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

2/9 2/tameD 5-9-02

REPERT Application of: Applicant: John P.

John P. Graham et al.

Serial No.:

10/067,012

Filing Date:

February 4, 2002

Title:

TIMER CIRCUIT FOR VALVE ACTIVATION IN OIL BURNER

SYSTEM

Examiner:

unknown

Art Unit:

3743

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Non-Fee Amendment Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Favorable reconsideration of the above-identified application is respectfully requested in view of the following comments.

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AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 11 and 18 as provided below. An appendix illustrating the amended claims in "marked up" form is provided at the end of this response for the Examiner's ease of reference.

11. (Amended) The oil burner system of claim 10, further comprising a half-wave rectification circuit coupled between the sinusoidal line voltage signal and the first and second charging circuits, respectively, wherein the half-wave rectification circuit is operable to half-wave rectify the sinusoidal line voltage signal input to the first and second charging circuits, and wherein the first and second charging circuits are operable to minimize a ripple associated with a charging voltage of the first and second